

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice original claims 1-10, the substitute claims 1-6 annexed to the International Preliminary Examination Report, and add new claims 11-20 as follows:

- A3
11. (new) A method for recognizing speech from a word sequence, the method comprising:
 - applying a first recognition procedure to a first segment of the word sequence, the first segment including a plurality of first words;
 - applying a second recognition procedure to a second segment of the word sequence, the second segment including a plurality of second words;
 - combining a last two words of the plurality of first words into a pseudoword upon a change from the first recognition procedure to the second recognition procedure; and
 - processing the pseudoword using a digram detection method.
 12. (new) The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the first recognition procedure includes an integrated unique syntax procedure and the second recognition procedure includes a statistical word sequence procedure.
 13. (new) The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the first recognition procedure is a digram recognition procedure and the second recognition procedure is a trigram recognition procedure and wherein the second recognition procedure limits permissible series of second words in the second segment according to a statistical evaluation.
 14. (new) The method as recited in claim 12 wherein at least one of the first and second segments is predefined in terms of at least one of a respective segment length and segment position.
 15. (new) The method as recited in claim 14 wherein at least one of the first and second segments is permanently allocated to one of the first and the second recognition procedure.
 16. (new) The method as recited in claim 15 wherein the first segment has a predefined length and is positioned at a beginning of the word sequence.